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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1036  
By Bowers

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Reverend Willie Hardy,  
Sr.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to recognize those venerable individuals who, through their great capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, strive to enhance the lives of the people in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Willie Hardy, Sr. is one such estimable citizen who radiates God's love and evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, since accepting his calling in 1988, Reverend Hardy has enriched the lives of the people in his congregation and his community through his inspirational example, his commitment of spirit, and his unwavering faith in God; and

WHEREAS, a native of Memphis, Reverend Hardy received his formal education at Geeter High School and later, through a General Motors Institute, received a degree in Diesel Engineering from the University of Michigan at Detroit; and

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WHEREAS, a man with an extraordinary gift of teaching, Reverend Hardy accepted a position teaching Diesel Mechanics in the Memphis City School System; and

WHEREAS, he has also earned six Continuing Education Units from The Urban Alternative for successful completion of Pastoral Studies; and

WHEREAS, after many years of committed service as an over-the-road truck driver, Willie Hardy, Sr. is retiring from his duties at Roadway Express, Inc., where he has functioned as a Job Steward for the Road Drivers; and

WHEREAS, on April 25, 1988, Willie Hardy, Sr. received his calling to become an ambassador for the Lord and soon became an Associate Pastor for the Jerusalem Methodist Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, after three years of devout service, Willie Hardy, Sr. was ordained to serve the Gospel Ministry at Jerusalem M. B. Church and later accepted a position as the Youth Minister at the Canaan Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Hardy currently serves as the Senior Pastor at the Cazassa Hope Center; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated minister of the Gospel, Reverend Hardy has enhanced his ministry through his diligent service to the Highway Harvester Ministers' Association, where he is active in ministering and converting truck drivers on the road and at truck stops; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as a minister, he has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and an exceptional asset to his community; he has worked in various positions with numerous civic organizations, including as the President of the Building Corporation, the Leader of a Boy Scout Troop, the Chairman of the Political Action Committee for Teamsters Local 667, and as the President of the Lakeview School PTA; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Hardy has also served as the President of the Flair Homeowners' Association, the Political Coordinator for the Southern Region of Teamsters, the Co-Chairman of the Jobs for Justice Committee, a Member of the Advisory Board for the Member Board of

Education, a Member of the Optimist Club, President of the Truckers Caucus Association, and as a Committee Member of the National Black Caucus of Teamsters; and

WHEREAS, due to his outstanding service to the community, Reverend Hardy has received numerous awards and honors, including a Certificate of Recognition by the Memphis City Council for his service as South Precinct Neighborhood Watch Volunteer; and

WHEREAS, his accomplishments aside, Reverend Hardy is fortunate to share love and companionship with his devoted wife, Grace Hervey Hardy; and

WHEREAS, he is the proud and loving father of four sons, Willie L. Hardy, Willie Hardy, Jr., Richard Hardy, and Victor Hervey, and two daughters, Emma Hardy Jones and Darlisa Hardy Wooten; and

WHEREAS, an unwavering commitment to the work of his Creator and Savior, the betterment of the lives of his congregation, and the welfare of all of humanity is a hallmark of the life and career of Reverend Hardy; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Reverend Hardy has proven to be an excellent steward of the physical and spiritual gifts bestowed upon him by God, as he utilizes these talents to meet the physical and spiritual needs of others; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Hardy's outstanding career as a Pastor and an active civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on God, his dedication to the time-honored values of hard work and common sense, and his uncommon ability to relate to people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Willie Hardy, Sr. is truly one of the great religious leaders and catalysts for positive spiritual change in our State and Nation, and he should be appropriately honored for his exemplary service to God, his fellow Christians, and to the good people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and recognize Reverend Willie Hardy, Sr. for his diligent

service to the people of Tennessee as a servant of God and wish him much success in his future ministerial endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.